

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Newington Town Hall
131 Cedar Street
Conference Room 3
Wednesday April 7, 2010
7:30 P.M.

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Thomas Shields
Commissioner Thomas Bowen
Commissioner Kevin Chick
Commissioner Michael Gerhart
Commissioner James Marocchini

Commissioner Michael Longo, absent
Commissioner Mary Niro, absent
Commissioner David Marsden, absent
Commissioner Dana Woods, absent

Scott McBride, Town Council liaison

Economic Development Director
Ed Meehan, Town Planner – present

II. MEETING MINUTES – March 3, 2010

Commissioner Bowen moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 3, 2010 be accepted. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Chick. The motion carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. BUSINESS CALL PROGRAM

Mr. Meehan distributed a Business Call Program packet to all members including a call area map, sample letters; list of businesses, business forms for feedback and a Tier #1 Call List (Mayor/Manager) and a librarian publication “Doing Business in Newington”. Chairman Shields encouraged all commission members to make an effort to drive through their areas and become cognizant of any changes that should be called to this commission’s attention.

B. NATIONAL WELDING PROJECT

Mr. Meehan summarized the brown field pilot grant that was filed March 1, 2010 and a reply from DECD is still pending until probably the end of May, early June, 2010. The Town Council has proposed in the CIP \$450,000.00 for developing the access road to National Welding. By the end of April if the State receives Federal bus way money, the letter of agreement between Mr. Hayes, Newington and the State could move ahead for the traffic signal, access road and drainage improvements. Also, there has been inquiry as to some large machinery left over in National Welding and Jeff Baron is investigating its value and possible removal with approval of the Town Council.

C. NEWINGTON OPEN BUSINESS BREAKFAST MAY 21, 2010 INDIAN HILL COUNTRY CLUB

Chairman Shields announced that Nancy Wyman, State Comptroller will be the speaker for this event. Invitations will be sent to town businesses. Co-sponsors are being sought to cover the cost of the breakfast, \$10.00 per person, which is set to begin at 7:45 A.M. approximately 80-100 attendees are expected to attend. Mr. Meehan encouraged the members to inform him of any new businesses in their areas so that they could receive invitations.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. STATUS OF THE MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Chairman Shields noted that just prior to this meeting, the Downtown Revitalization Committee met indicating that the project is progressing with the reallocation of funds in order to complete both the west and east side of the project in a timely manner.

B. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT #3 MARCH 24, 2020 PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Meehan passed out the "Third Draft for Public Hearing Discussion, Revisions dated 3/24/10", which is also on the town's web page – with completion date due before the end of this fiscal year. Mr. Meehan encouraged members to view the business section, to also attend the TPZ public hearings and provide their input on this draft.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

VII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bowen reported on the Open Space Committee contacted the three major property owners on Cedar Mountain. Representative Sandy Nafis has sponsored a bill requesting that 40 acres of the Cedar Crest Hospital's 70 acres be conveyed to the Town

for open space, this is the westerly ridgeline area. This committee has been working with Town Planner, Ed Meehan, looking for grants, and working very hard as a dedicated body to preserve the ridgeline as open space for the Town of Newington.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bowen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Chick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Glenn
Recording Secretary